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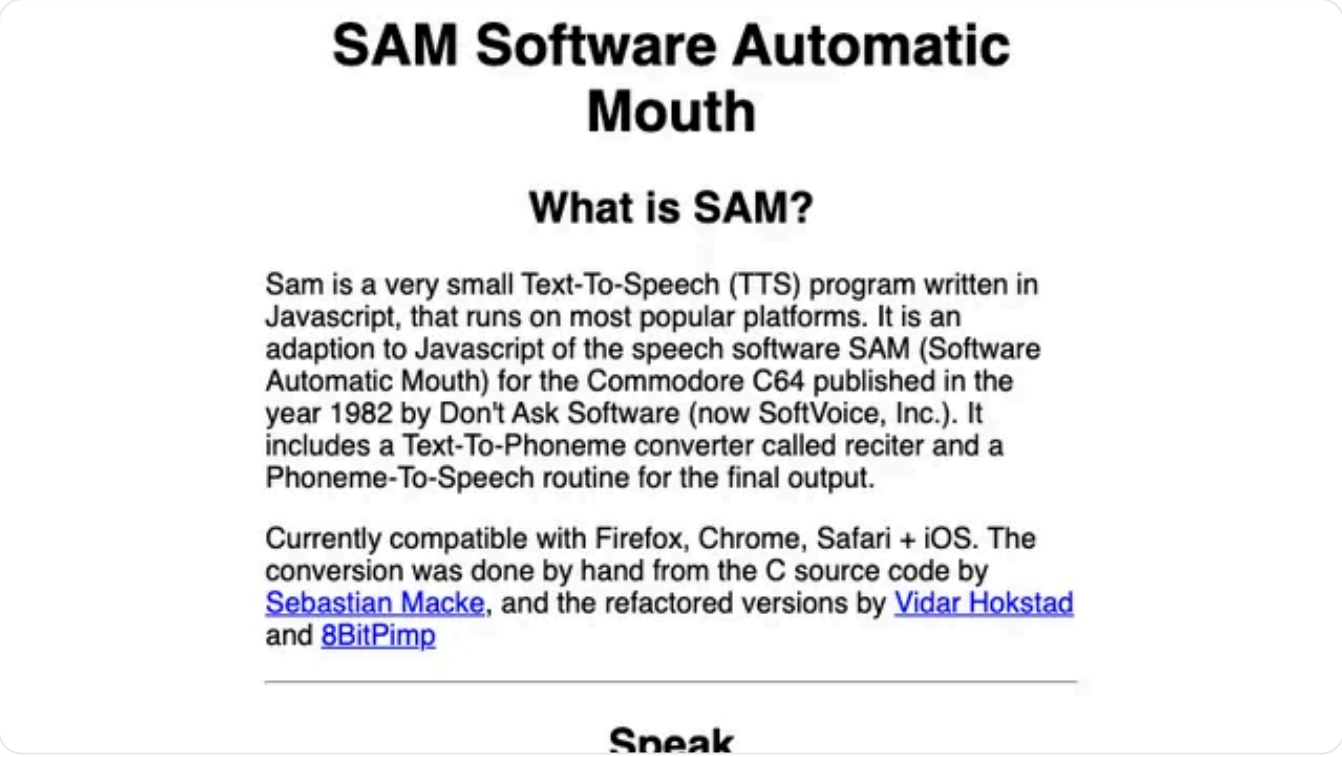
Sam Tts

A JavaScript port of the classic SAM speech synthesizer from 1982.


SAM Software Automatic Mouth
What is SAM?
Sam is a very small Text-To-Speech (TTS) program written in Javascript, that runs on most popular platforms. It is an adaption to Javascript of the speech software SAM (Software Automatic Mouth) for the Commodore C64 published in the year 1982 by Don't Ask Software (now SoftVoice, Inc.). It includes a Text-To-Phoneme converter called reciter and a Phoneme-To-Speech routine for the final output.
Currently compatible with Firefox, Chrome, Safari + iOS. The conversion was done by hand from the C source code by Sebastian Macke, and the refactored versions by Vidar Hokstad and 8BitPimp
Speak

About

Sam Tts is a text-to-speech app that brings the classic 1982 SAM voice to modern browsers. It runs in JavaScript and turns typed text into the recognizable robotic speech style associated with the Commodore C64 original. The app includes both a text-to-phoneme converter and a phoneme-to-speech output stage, so the sound stays close to the vintage software rather than a modern neural voice. According to the site, it works on Firefox, Chrome, Safari, and iOS.

What is Sam Tts

Sam Tts is a text-to-speech app that recreates SAM, the 1982 Software Automatic Mouth speech synthesizer, in JavaScript. The project is a browser-based port of the original

Commodore C64 voice software, so it aims to preserve the old-school character of the SAM speech engine instead of sounding like a modern assistant.

The app is specifically described as a very small TTS program that runs on most popular platforms. Its core is the same idea that made the original SAM memorable: convert text into phonemes first, then synthesize speech from those phonemes. That two-step design is what gives this text-to-speech app its distinctive robotic tone.

Because it is a JavaScript adaptation, Sam Tts is easy to try without installing desktop software. The site also points to a GitHub repository with the source code and to a list of demos.

Key features

This text-to-speech app focuses on the essentials of the classic SAM voice:

- **Text-to-phoneme conversion** using a component called `reciter`.
- **Phoneme-to-speech synthesis** for the final audio output.
- **Browser compatibility** for Firefox, Chrome, Safari, and iOS.
- **Voice controls** for pitch, speed, mouth, and throat.
- **Presets** that quickly change the sound profile.

The available presets shown on the site include:

- SAM
- Elf
- Little Robot
- Stuffy Guy
- Little Old Lady
- Extra-Terrestrial

The site also shows the numeric values behind those presets. For example, the default SAM setting uses speed 72, pitch 64, throat 128, and mouth 128, while the Little Robot preset pushes the sound toward a more mechanical result with higher mouth and throat values. Those controls matter because they shape how the text-to-speech app pronounces words and how synthetic the voice feels.

How to use it

Using Sam Tts is straightforward if you want to hear text in the SAM style.

1. Open the app in a supported browser.
2. Type the text you want spoken into the input area.
3. Adjust **Pitch**, **Speed**, **Mouth**, and **Throat** to change the voice.
4. Pick a preset if you want a quick starting point.
5. Play the output and refine the controls until the text-to-speech app sounds right for your phrase.

A practical way to work with this text-to-speech app is to start with the default SAM preset, then compare it with one of the character presets like Elf or Little Robot. That makes it easier to hear how the controls affect articulation and tone. Since the app uses phoneme conversion, short test phrases often help more than long paragraphs when you are tuning the voice.

Who it is for

Sam Tts is a good fit for people who want a retro text-to-speech app rather than a polished modern voice.

- **Retro computing fans** who know the Commodore 64 and the original SAM software.
- **Developers** who want to inspect or reuse a small JavaScript TTS example.
- **Demo makers** who need a distinctive computer voice for playful projects.
- **Accessibility-curious builders** who want to study how a simple text-to-speech pipeline works.
- **Anyone exploring sound design** and looking for a recognizable synthetic voice.

This text-to-speech app is more about character than realism. If you want a voice that sounds like a vintage computer speaker, Sam Tts is the point.

What to know before you use it

Sam Tts is not a modern AI voice generator, and it does not try to sound natural. It reproduces a specific historical speech engine, so the result is intentionally synthetic.

A few important caveats:

- The site says it is compatible with Firefox, Chrome, Safari, and iOS, but it does not list every browser or device, so support outside those environments is unknown.
- It is a JavaScript port of older speech software, so pronunciation can be quirky by design.
- The app is best for novelty, demos, and retro effects, not for professional narration.
- If you need authoritative pronunciation, accessibility-grade narration, or a voice for production media, use a modern TTS platform or official accessibility tools instead.
- The source page mentions a GitHub repository and demos, but pricing information is not provided, so the safest assumption is that this text-to-speech app is available at no stated cost.

Sam Tts is valuable because it preserves the specific behavior of the original SAM speech engine in the browser. If you want a vintage text-to-speech app with controllable pitch, speed, mouth, and throat settings, this is a compact and historically faithful way to hear it.

FAQ

Is Sam Tts free to use? Yes, the site does not list any pricing, subscriptions, or paid tiers. Based on the public page, there is no stated cost.

What platforms does this text-to-speech app support? The site explicitly names Firefox, Chrome, Safari, and iOS. Support for other browsers or desktop environments is not confirmed on the page.

Can I change how the voice sounds? Yes, you can adjust pitch, speed, mouth, and throat. The app also provides presets like Elf, Little Robot, and Extra-Terrestrial to quickly change the voice character.

Is this a modern AI voice tool? No, it is a port of the classic SAM speech synthesizer. It uses text-to-phoneme and phoneme-to-speech processing rather than a modern neural voice model.

Can developers inspect the source? Yes, the site links to a GitHub repository with the source code. That makes the app useful both as a text-to-speech app and as a small

If you want a compact text-to-speech app with the unmistakable SAM sound, Sam Tts is the browser version to try.

FAQ

- What exactly is Sam Tts?
- Is Sam Tts free?
- Is Sam Tts free to use?
- What browsers can I use with Sam Tts?
- What voice parameters can I adjust?
- How do I change the voice in this text-to-speech app?
- Which browsers and devices support Sam Tts?
- Who is Sam Tts best for?
- How accurate is the speech output?
- Does Sam Tts use AI voice generation?

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Pricing	Free
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Platform	Web, iOS, Firefox, Chrome, Safari
Launched	Aug 2026
Updated	10 days ago
Verified	1 months ago

TAGS

text to speech # retro # commodore-64 # javascript # open source # speech synthesis # web-audio

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